

BUZZWORDS



www.floridamosquito.org

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**Deadlines for submissions to be
included in the newsletter:**

Jan/Feb	Feb 1
Mar/Apr	Apr 1
May/Jun	Jun 1
Jul/Aug	Aug 1
Sep/Oct	Oct 1
Nov/Dec	Dec 1

The mission of the FMCA is to promote *effective* and *environmentally* sound control of disease-transmitting and pestiferous mosquitoes and other arthropods of public health importance, develop and enhance public interest, awareness, and support for the control of mosquitoes, and provide for the scientific advancement of members through our meetings, training and education.

Volume 11. Number 4. Jul/Aug 2011

Upcoming Events

Advanced Mosquito Control Exam

August 31, 2011

Florida Medical Entomology

Laboratory, Vero Beach, FL

<http://floridamosquito.org/Events/2011/AMCE/>

FMCA 83rd Annual Fall Meeting

November 13 – 16, 2011

Crowne Plaza, Jacksonville, FL

<http://www.floridamosquito.org/Events/Meeting.aspx>

Important deadlines:

FMCA Award Nominations:

August 31, 2011

FMCA Fall Annual Meeting

Call for Papers:

September 15, 2011

Florida Mosquito Control Foundation

T W Miller Scholarship Applications:

September 15, 2011

*"Whenever you do a thing, act as if all the
world were watching."*

-----Thomas Jefferson

From the Editor

*Please note: The opinions expressed in the
articles of this newsletter are just one view. All
readers are invited to submit articles, rebuttals
to articles, or news items for this newsletter.*

FMCA Fall Annual Meeting: Third Call for Papers

The FMCA Fall Annual Meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Jacksonville, FL, November 13 – 16, 2011. This is the third call for papers and the abstract submission site is now open:

<http://floridamosquito.org/Events/2011/>

The request to present a paper will be handled on-line only – no more paper forms to fax or mail! Requests to present papers at the meeting will require an abstract of 200 words or less. In an effort to accommodate all individual members who wish to present a paper, there will be no symposia this year.

DEADLINE Sept 15, 2011

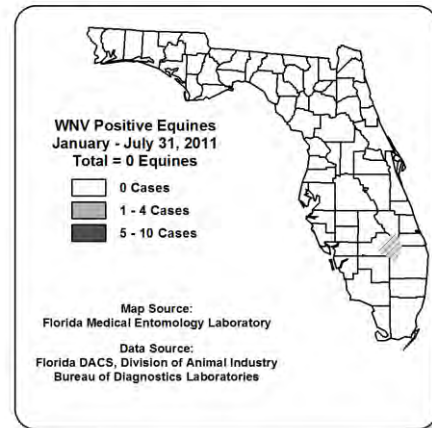
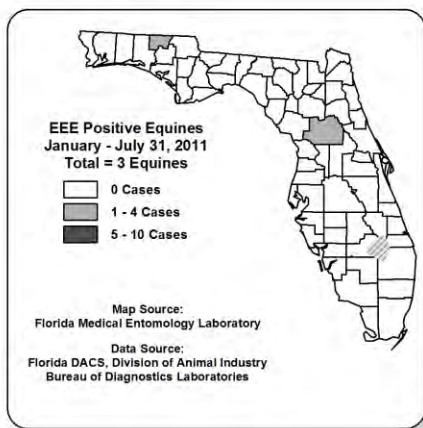
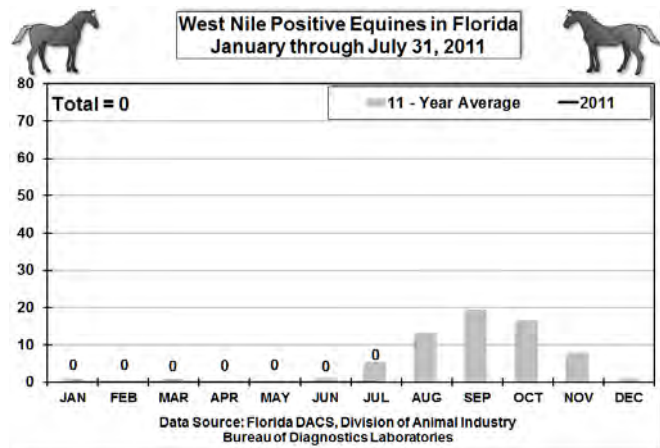
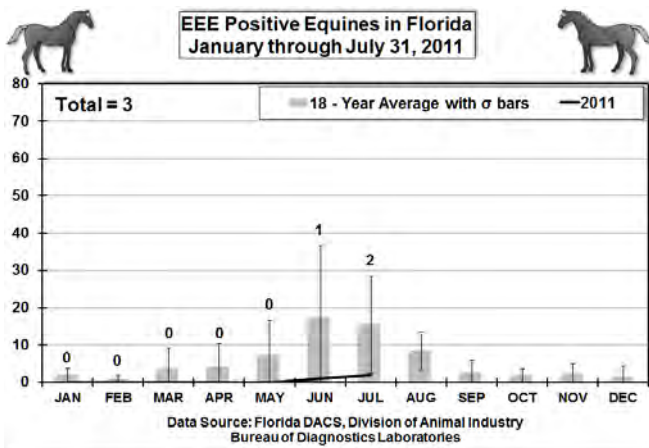
*Dr. Larry Hribar, FMCA President-Elect
Program Chair 2011*

Silent Auction at the FMCA Fall Annual Meeting

Do you have any antiques associated with mosquitoes? Do you have a knack for making mosquito-related crafts or photos? Do you have an autograph from Walter Reed or Carlos Finlay? Do you have a gift from someone that you just couldn't find a use for? And are you willing to donate any of these items to the FMCA's Silent Auction to help raise money for student scholarships?

Shelly Redovan, FMCA's Immediate Past President, is in charge of this year's Silent Auction. She would like you to start thinking of items to consider donating for the auction at FMCA's Annual Fall Meeting in Jacksonville, FL. All proceeds from the auction go to the Florida Mosquito Control Foundation fund for educational scholarships. Please consider donating an item to this worthwhile cause. All donations are appreciated and don't hesitate in being creative.

If you have any questions, email Shelly at redovan@lcmcd.org or call her at (239) 694-2174.



Recognize the achievements of your mosquito control colleagues - -

Nominations for the 2011 FMCA Awards are now open!

Any Florida Mosquito Control Association member in good standing may nominate a candidate for any of the 6 FMCA awards by submitting to the Awards Committee a short biographical sketch and an appraisal of the nominee's accomplishments deemed worthy of the award. There is no official nomination form. Endorsements and written support from other colleagues are encouraged, and all submissions will be acknowledged. **Nominations must be received by COB August 31st, 2011.**

The **Maurice W Provost Memorial Award**, established as a memorial to the first Director of the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, honors persons who have made outstanding contributions to mosquito control and/or biting fly biology in Florida. Candidates must have been instrumental in each of the following areas: developing sound management and operational methods to reduce pesticide levels and to minimize habitat alteration while reducing mosquito populations; increasing our knowledge of mosquitoes and other biting insects and their habitats; and educating students and the general public about the importance of various environmental issues facing the citizens in protecting the fauna and flora in Florida. The candidate should be an FMCA member and have made significant contributions to the Association.

The **Joseph Y Porter Distinguished Achievement Award**, which honors the first President of the Florida Anti-Mosquito Association and first State Health Officer of Florida, recognizes scientists who have made significant contributions to entomology, with special emphasis on the abatement of

arthropods of public health importance. The candidate must have meritoriously contributed to the advancement of entomology research in the field of mosquito and/or other biting arthropod control in the State of Florida. The candidate should be an FMCA member and have made significant contributions to the Association.

The **Fred Stutz Memorial Award**, which honors the former director of the Dade County Mosquito Control office, recognizes an outstanding contribution to mosquito control by development of procedures that increase effectiveness in mosquito or other arthropod control, or the design and manufacture of equipment that helped revolutionize the control of mosquitoes and/or other arthropods of public health importance. The procedures developed have been adopted and employed throughout Florida as part of the standard operating procedure. The candidate should be an FMCA member and have made significant contributions to the Association.

The **FMCA Merit Award** recognizes outstanding individual contributions in promoting control of disease-transmitting and pestiferous mosquitoes or other arthropods of public health importance, for scientific advancement of the discipline, or for developing or extending the public interest in the control of such mosquitoes or other arthropods. The candidate should represent those characteristics generally associated with responsible leadership, good citizenship and personal integrity.

The candidate should be an FMCA member and have made significant contributions to the Association.

The **James W Robinson Memorial Award** was established as a memorial to Jim Robinson, Director of the Pasco County Mosquito Control District, who was renowned for his innovative development of new equipment and adoption of new technologies. This award recognizes innovation and ingenuity in optimizing the safe and efficient operations of Florida public health pest control programs. The candidate must have contributed an outstanding improvement to existing equipment or currently employed techniques used by a non-commercial mosquito control related agency. This advancement may not be proprietary in nature, and must be freely shared with the Association.

The **Sherrie Yarberry Award**, named for a dedicated employee of the Jacksonville Mosquito Control office, recognizes continued outstanding contributions to operational program activities by veteran, non-administrative personnel of Florida mosquito control related agencies. The candidate must demonstrate exemplary performance resulting in enhanced unit efficiency or public recognition of excellence of the parent organization. The recipient of the Sherrie Yarberry Award will receive \$500 cash, a commemorative certificate, and funding to attend the FMCA Annual Fall Meeting.

Please submit inquiries and nomination documents to Eric Schreiber
Sarasota Mosquito Management Services, 5531 Pinkney Ave, Sarasota, FL 34233
phone 941-861-9723 ♦ fax 941-861-9765 ♦ e-mail eschreib@scgov.net
or on-line at www.floridamosquito.org

T. Wainwright Miller, Jr. FMCA Scholarship Application

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATION:

Four copies of application materials should be mailed to the FMC Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair, Dr. Roxanne Connelly, FMEL, 200 9th Street SE, Vero Beach, FL 32962 and postmarked on or before September 15, 2011.

The Florida Mosquito Control Foundation is now accepting applications for the T. Wainwright Miller, Jr. Florida Mosquito Control Association Scholarship. The purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and assist students having a major in Biological, Ecological and/or Entomological studies who are seeking degrees relevant to arthropod control, with particular emphasis on Public Health fields. The first place recipient will receive a one-time scholarship award of \$2,000.00; second place recipient will receive \$500.00. **The following criteria have been established to choose qualified applicants for the award:**

1. The student shall be an undergraduate or graduate. Undergraduates will have completed at least two years of academic study with a minimum of 30 credit hours.
2. The student shall be a United States citizen residing in the state of Florida.
3. Undergraduates shall have maintained an overall grade point average of 3.0 (out of 4.0) during the last 2 years of academic study. Graduate students must have completed at least one full semester of graduate course work and shall have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (out of 4.0) for all graduate course work completed by September 15, 2011.
4. The student shall be enrolled in an accredited College or University in the state of Florida.
5. The student shall be majoring in a field of study having relevance to arthropod control and/or public health.
6. The student shall submit three letters of recommendation, two of which are from professors affiliated with an accredited College or University in which the student is enrolled.
7. The student shall be encouraged to seek summer employment with a local mosquito control district for at least one summer during the award period.
8. The scholarship recipient will be provided a gratis membership in FMCA during the period of the award. The recipient is expected to attend an annual Florida Mosquito Control Association meeting. Graduate student recipients will be required to present a paper on their research during an FMCA meeting.

A completed application must contain the following: 1. Name, address, telephone number of applicant, University or College where enrolled, major, overall grade point average, grade point average in major, and number of credit hours completed. 2. Statement from the student describing their interest in public health entomology, career goals, and other factors pertinent to scholastic ability which illustrate qualifications for the scholarship (limited to two typewritten pages [single or double-spaced] on one side only). 3. Typewritten statements from three persons (two of which from professors from the person's academic institution) who are knowledgeable individuals attesting to entomological interests, character and aptitude. 4. An original copy of current official transcripts of college grades (this may be sent separately). Send only one set of original transcripts per application package. 5. Proof of current enrollment at a Florida College or University. 6. One photograph (black and white, passport size) per application package.

The Closure of PHEREC is a Tragedy for Florida Mosquito Control Programs

*We too are ashes as we watch and hear
The psalm, the sorrow, and the simple praise
Of one whose promised thoughts of other days
Were such as ours, but now wholly destroyed.*

Karl Shapiro

On the 30th of June 2011 a disaster befell the Florida mosquito control community. On that day one of the world's very few laboratories devoted almost entirely to mosquito control closed its doors for the last time. Approved and funded by the Florida Legislature in 1961, the West Florida Arthropod Research Laboratory opened in 1964 as part of the Florida State Board of Health. It was staffed by scientists who were formerly part of the Entomology Research Center (now the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory) in Vero Beach. In 1986, the name was changed to the John A. Mulrennan, Sr. Arthropod Research Laboratory. In 1992 it became part of Florida A&M University and was renamed the John A. Mulrennan, Sr. Public Health Entomology Research and Education Center, called PHEREC for short.

In the 47 years since the lab opened, invaluable work has been done on adulticides, larvicides, biological control agents, microbial control agents, application techniques, insecticide resistance, and nontarget effects of mosquito control. Staff studied not only mosquitoes but dog flies, yellow flies, ticks, and no-see-ums. The Laboratory's Southeast Regional Public Health Pest and Vector Management Conference served mosquito control personnel in northern Florida and beyond. This conference provided opportunities for continuing education, dissemination of research to the mosquito control community, and a venue wherein program managers and directors could discuss topics of mutual importance. How can one put a dollar value on that? How could anyone question the worth of having an independent, unbiased laboratory with scientists to study such problems and provide solutions for the challenges facing mosquito control?

Florida mosquito control has made enormous progress in providing efficient, effective, and environmentally proper mosquito control over the past 50 years. PHEREC has been vital to this process. Many people throughout Florida worked hard to save the lab, or to save at least the mission of the lab. It should have been apparent to the decision makers that some things are easier to take apart than they are to put back together again. Unfortunately, all came to naught. Now the doors have shut. The entomologists, biologists, and other staff have gone their separate ways, and Florida is all the poorer for it. What of the future? I believe we in mosquito control will have ample opportunity to rue the day that PHEREC was no more.

Larry Hribar
President-Elect, FMCA

The PHEREC Closure and Other Legislative Activities Affecting Mosquito Control Research

By now, most of you probably heard that FAMU decided to close PHEREC and lay off all employees on June 30, 2011. This came as quite a surprise after having been told 30 days earlier that it was going to be kept open because the Legislature appropriated funds for its operation; however, Governor Rick Scott vetoed the appropriation. When he did that, FAMU decided to close PHEREC even though it was not necessary. The \$500K appropriation was only part of the funding needed to keep the Center open. The remaining available funds were designated from PHEREC's residual contract and grants which totaled about \$1.4 million. In fact, there were sufficient reserve funds to continue PHEREC for as much as two or three years without the legislative appropriation. Why FAMU did not allow this remains unclear. One might ask, why then was there such an effort to obtain the legislative appropriation? The main reason was because the original intent was to acquire annual recurring funds. As it turned out, the \$500K was non-recurring, i.e., 1-year funding. That type of funding would be essentially the same as PHEREC's existing residual funds, thus it was not necessary to keep PHEREC operational on an annual basis.

Why did Governor Rick Scott veto the PHEREC appropriation? Florida TaxWatch, a private research institute claiming to be a "watchdog of public funds", included the PHEREC appropriation on their "Turkey list" meaning that, according to their interpretation, it was added in the last hours of the legislative session without proper support or vetting. To set the record straight, thanks to Representatives Marti Coley, Jimmy Patronis, and other Bay County legislators, the PHEREC appropriation was added in the House Higher Education budget during the early stages of budget process. Several weeks later, it was fully reviewed and approved by the House; however, it was not in the Senate budget. Like several other similar funding issues, it was referred to the appropriation conference committee where it was once again reviewed and this time approved by the Senate and then later adopted by the full legislature. To say that it was not properly supported or vetted is simply not accurate.

Another point not mentioned about the legislative session involved the removal of PHEREC from the appropriation proviso language making FDACS mosquito control research funds available to both PHEREC and FMEL. This change was approved by the legislature in a similar manner as the PHEREC appropriation and resulted in all \$250K of the research funds being ear-tagged solely for FMEL. This action occurred well before the Governor's veto when PHEREC was approved to be continued. Hopefully, during next year this will be changed to allow other researchers the opportunity to provide applied research aimed at benefiting Florida Mosquito Control.

John P. Smith
Former PHEREC Director
Current Research Medical/Veterinary Entomologist
Florida State University
Panama City, Florida

Florida's Future is at Stake: The Status of the Florida Mosquito Control Research Program

Nearly 60 years ago, two prescient public health professionals, Drs. John Mulrennan, Sr. and Maurice Provost, both giants in the history of Florida mosquito control, fought for a laboratory dedicated to provide essential new information that they believed was essential to providing effective mosquito control in Florida. They were successful in obtaining state funding to create, and recurring funds to sustain, the Entomology Research Center that later became the University of Florida, Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory (FMEL) in Vero Beach. In 1964, what later became the John Mulrennan, Sr. Public Health Research and Education Center (PHEREC) was created by moving the pesticide section from the Vero Beach Laboratory to Panama City. This later became a unit in Florida A&M University. These two dedicated State research laboratories have been the principal providers of new technologies, new strategies, and basic information on Florida's nuisance and pest mosquitoes that have kept Florida mosquito control at the forefront of protecting Florida's citizens, visitors, and its economy. 2011 will be remembered as a defining moment for Florida mosquito control. What would Drs. Mulrennan and Provost have thought about the substantial reductions in the Florida 2011 budget that singled out and cut essential aspects of mosquito control? The Florida state aid to mosquito control program was reduced 40% from \$2.16 million to \$1.29 million. The PHEREC laboratory was closed by Florida A&M University. In the final moments of the 2011 Florida legislative cycle, Gov. Scott prevented keeping PHEREC open for an additional year by vetoing \$500,000 in non-recurring funds that had been inserted into the state budget.

There is simply no good news to offer that would mitigate the devastating statement that Florida made in 2011 and the potential impact of these draconian legislative decisions. How can one quantify the loss of future opportunities to make progress and improvements in Florida mosquito control? There will be future problems for which we will not have solutions, there will be lost opportunities to make mosquito control more effective, efficient, and environmentally proper. What might Drs. Mulrennan and Provost think? I believe they would recognize that, for the first time since Florida began its war with mosquitoes and mosquito-borne disease, Florida has decided to reduce its capability to fight this war. Florida is now moving in the wrong direction. This is not only sad; it is an irresponsible act that may impact the health and well-being of Florida residents and visitors for years to come.

The loss of the PHEREC laboratory severely reduces the number of Florida scientists dedicated to mosquito control issues. In 2007 there were 6 PHEREC and 10 FMEL faculty working on important questions in support of Florida Mosquito Control. Now there are only 8 FMEL faculty due to the budget reductions that have occurred at FMEL similar to other state-supported units. However, this is a total loss of 50% of Florida's statewide capability in scientists dedicated to mosquito control issues. Yes, there are other Florida scientists who may conduct research on mosquitoes and mosquito-borne disease. However, it has been scientists at PHEREC and FMEL with more than 50 years of devoting their attention specifically to Florida mosquito control and the issues of Florida's mosquito control districts. This history of service and attention to building close relationships and integration between research and applied mosquito control is very deep.

One might take some solace in the fact that the Florida mosquito control research program, administered by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, was not reduced in this budget cycle. It was funded at the same level of \$250,000. This amount has remained the same for nearly 20 years. Many times I have pointed out that this level of funding is clearly inadequate to face

the challenges now confronting mosquito control. It would be a mistake to believe, with the 50% reduction in dedicated mosquito control research scientists, that the research budget is adequate to

support the needed work. It is not. We are moving in the wrong direction.

TABLE 1. Proposals submitted for consideration in 2011 for funds from the Florida mosquito control research program.

Reducing the impact of pesticides on non-target arthropods through genetic technology	\$47,481
Integration of rainfall and KBDI data into the FMEL arboviral risk models for South Florida	\$40,635
Creation of a North Florida water table model to enhance FMEL arboviral epidemic risk assessment	\$47,566
Mitigating mosquito production from ornamental bromeliads	\$42,604
How does larval habitat distribution affect non-pesticide control	\$51,011
Geographic distribution and investigation of the larval habitats and vector status of <i>Culex coronator</i> in Florida	\$38,702
Assessing and controlling mosquito production from abandoned premises in Florida	\$52,994
Improving efficacy of mosquito control by understanding its relationship to density dependence in mosquito vectors	\$65,279
Improving our understanding of control and its unanticipated consequences on mosquito transmission	\$64,095
Integration of rainfall and KBDI data into the FMEL arboviral risk models for the Florida Keys and South Florida	\$13,650
Assessment of phenotypic insecticide resistance on the vector competence of <i>Aedes aegypti</i>	\$47,471

How does one put a price tag on lost opportunities to make progress? What is the cost of not having new information and not having new improved mosquito control strategies? What if we did not know about rotational impoundment management? Arbovirus surveillance? The role of *Culex* in arbovirus transmission? Bti? Repellants? Trapping? *Aedes aegypti*? *Aedes albopictus*? Non- target effects? Pesticide resistance? Consider what Florida might be like with uncontrolled mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases. These are the issues that were

addressed by the dedicated Florida mosquito control research faculty. What will Florida do when current mosquito pesticides prove ineffective or there are mosquito control failures or pesticides have to be reduced due to perceived untested environmental issues? What of a mosquito-borne disease epidemic? What will be Florida's ability to prevent or stop it? Is it wise to reduce Florida's ability to be effective due to not having essential information? Consider Drs. Mulrennan's and Provost's likely response. Why would Florida's legislators reduce our chance to be successful? That is what is happening. Our chances to be successful have been reduced by 50%. To further illustrate the inadequacy of the current research program consider the projects that were submitted to the Florida mosquito control research program in 2011 shown in Table 1.

Note the 11 submitted projects total a request for \$511,500 of which only \$250,000 will be supported. This likely means that only 4-5 at best of the submitted projects will be funded. How does one put a price on what is lost by the failure to support some of the other projects? Which ones will not receive support? Realize that each submitted project addresses one or more of the high priority issues identified by the Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control (Table 2). Would Florida benefit from being able to support a few more projects? Perhaps not immediately. However, each and every year more and more information will not be at hand and the number of issues that are not addressed just pile up. How can we hope to have a chance to make progress on the issues identified in Table 2. Are these issues important? Where will the breakthroughs come from if there is no investment? We cannot stand by silently as Florida's mosquito control infrastructure, an investment that took over 50 years to develop, is allowed to erode due to short-sighted decisions. We cannot continue to move in the wrong direction.

Is there any good news for Florida mosquito control and more importantly for the citizens of Florida who have come to rely on mosquito control's ability to protect them from pest mosquitoes and from mosquito-borne diseases? What can we offer our fellow citizens?

Of course, Florida mosquito control will continue the fight to protect Florida despite the roadblocks and challenges. That is our job and we must continue the fight. At the same time, however, that does

not mean Florida mosquito control professionals with their organization, the FMCA, should be silent about the effects of decisions like reducing state aid and the loss of Florida's research infrastructure. Florida mosquito control through FMCA must use this moment as an opportunity and be more aggressive than ever in its efforts to alert our fellow citizens on the consequences of the recent reductions on mosquito control. We must galvanize the citizens to have an impact on Florida's legislators who have allowed this to happen.

This is not the time when Florida can afford the types and magnitudes of reductions that can only lead to greater numbers of nuisance mosquitoes or to a mosquito-borne disease outbreak.



Figure 1. Why Florida needs effective mosquito control.

TABLE 2. 2011 RESEARCH FUNDING PRIORITIES OF THE FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL ON MOSQUITO CONTROL		
RESEARCH TOPIC	RANK	RAW SCORE
Disease—Surveillance/Control/Risk Prediction	1	72
Environmental Residue Monitoring	2	66
Non-Pesticide Control Strategies/Products	3	65
Pesticide—Non-target Effects: Chronic or Acute	3	65
Pesticide—New Products	3	65
Domestic Mosquito Control/Storm Water	3	65
Pesticide—Efficacy/Resistance	7	61
Application—Aerial Techniques/Ground Techniques—Adulticides	7	61
Application—Larvicides	9	59
Emerging Pathogens	10	58
Mosquito Ecology/Behavior/Population Dynamics	11	52
Mosquito Surveillance/Trapping Systems	12	41
Public Education/Risk Communication	12	41
Attractants/Repellents	14	36
Application—Vegetative Barrier	15	34

Is Figure 1 what Florida wishes as an advertisement for Florida living?

The way to show how important effective, efficient and environmentally proper mosquito control is to all of Florida is through education of Florida's citizens by each and every mosquito control professional in Florida, and then most importantly JOIN, PARTICIPATE AND SUPPORT FMCA! It is vital to Florida's future.



*Walter J. Tabachnick
Director, Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory
Professor, Department of Entomology and Nematology
University of Florida, IFAS, Vero Beach, Florida*

11:30 A.M. "Florida's Future Depends upon Scientific Research and Education" - Dr. John T. Creighton, Head, Department of Entomology, University of Florida, Gainesville

FLORIDA'S FUTURE DEPENDS UPON
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

by

John T. Creighton
Head, Department of Entomology
Head, Pest Control Division
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Our great Nation is now at war and we realize that it faces the greatest crisis in its history. Our success or failure in this war and the peace to follow will depend in great part upon past research in all fields of human endeavor. I feel that it is important that we reveal the ways that research may be of importance to a state and nation and that we make use of all research assimilated during past years.

The State of Florida will play a brilliant part in the war crisis and in the peaceful era that is to follow. It constitutes one of the national hubs during emergency as well as during normal periods. This importance is based upon its strategical location and upon its minerals, soil, and climate. Its location makes it important from a military aspect and as a consequence many branches of the armed forces are located in the state. Climate and soils govern the two greatest industries of Florida, namely agricultural and tourist industries. The latter is of primary importance during peaceful periods, while the agricultural industry is important during peace and even more important during war.

In Gainesville, the State of Florida has established the University of Florida which is dedicated to the advancement of the Citizenry of Florida and their many interests through research and education. One branch of this great educational institution is the College of Agriculture which includes the Resident Teaching Division, the Experiment Station, and the Extension Division.

The Department of Entomology and the Pest Control Division of the University of Florida are unquestioned assets to the University and the State. They are excellent nuclei for future development. Sensible appropriations for these two divisions of the University could be used in accumulating research data that would be invaluable to the future of Florida.

The Anti-Mosquito Association of Florida represents those persons and organizations most concerned with mosquito abatement such as the personnel of the Board of Health, the Anti-mosquito Districts, and under present war time conditions members of the armed services. Those have a just right to look to the State University for information and trained men. Such a University should constitute a fountain head of such information and a supply tank of such trained specialists. We invite you to make as much use of us as possible under present conditions, and to aid in broadening our sphere of service until we are capable of supplying all of your needs.

Can you guess the year this paper was presented? This is just a sample of what the FMCA Archives Committee is working on! Stay tuned for instructions on how to access some of the FMCA's archives in the months to come. Oh – and the year was 1942!!

Dr. Roxanne Connelly, Editor
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